SUBJECT No. 234.

Area given to the Mysore Manganese Company.

Messrs. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, and H. Ramappa, Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The area actually taken up by this Company is small when compared with the concession they enjoy, as they have a preferential right of obtaining licenses for any mine within a radius of 13 miles from Aynur. This is creating preferential rights for this Company in that area. They may be therefore asked to pay for the whole area the usual charges of Rs. 100 per square mile, or the concession may be withdrawn.

Reply of Government.—The matter is under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 235.

Royalty on manganese ore.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, B.A., LL.B., Shimoga Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—The royalty of six annas per ton now levied on manganese ore is very low. Persons who discover the mines get a rupee per ton as their commission. Mysore ore is rich and fetches good price. The royalty may therefore be raised to Rs. 2 per ton of ore.

Reply of Government.—Noted.